

Wings

A breeze blew past her and whipped her hair in front of her face. She laughed as she tried to get her hair under control, the wind was always strong this high above the city, so she decided to tie it back. As she pulled her hair to the side, the panorama of the city opened up before her, with its towers of white and blue like shimmering spikes. She took a deep breath, as if to breathe in the calm and peace of these heights she placed a pair of goggles over her eyes and then she jumped. She fell for a good minute before she smacked the button on the straps of her backpack, and from it burst a parasail. "YAAAAAAHOO!!!" she screamed as she swooped down in to the busy streets below. The people on the streets all stared and gasped as she nimbly swung around the corner of the street, landing softly on the sidewalk as she broke into a run, laughing to herself at all their stunned faces. You would think it would be very dark at the bottom of all these massive buildings but their glass walls worked as excellent mirrors, illuminating even the farthest reaches of the city and giving it an almost ethereal glow. Even with all this light though, she didn't see the patrol robot and ran straight into its metallic chest plate colliding with a thud as she fell back onto the pavement. "Sarah p. Farrow" the robot vocalized "You have violated the city locomotion codes, you will be brought the council of judgement." Sarah smiled up at the machine wearing a police uniform, "not likely" she replied as she left up to her feet and then into the air planting a kick right into the robot's main sensor unit, which would have been its head if it was a human. The momentum sent the two of them rocketing in opposite directions, the robot colliding with the sidewalk, Sarah being launched upwards into the street. She used this momentum to grab onto the top of a passing bus. Knowing that she was safe for a moment, she sat down and turned towards the robot standing back up on the sidewalk. "My name is Sparrow you junker!" she yelled back at it "and you will never stop me from flying!" Content with her statements she relaxed for a minute and allowed the bus to carry her to wherever it was this bus was heading.

As the wind whipped past her head she stretched her arms out to her side and felt the wind rushing past her, she closed her arms and felt as though she was flying. This was her favourite feeling in the whole world, but sadly one she did not experience very often. All forms of flight had been banned, for the government decreed that if humans were meant to fly they would have been born with wings. Sparrow, on the other hand, felt that humans weren't born with wings because they had to earn them, and that's what she planned to do. But as she was sitting on the bus contemplating all the ways she might achieve flight, she was snapped back to reality by the sound of sirens. They've found me already? she thought to herself, but she soon realised that these sirens were not for her. There was a boy running with a whole group of patrol bots trailing him. Sparrow was about to ignore him, seeing as she was already in trouble with the law, until she noticed that the boy wasn't touching the ground. She hooked her feet under a bar on the top of the bus and hung out over the side. Reaching out her hand she yelled "Here!" at the boy and just as one of the robots was about to grab him he grasped her hand and she swung him on top of the bus with her. He let out a deep sigh "my thanks he said" and Sparrow couldn't help herself but let out a small laugh, *my thanks?* she thought *who talks like that?* "Listen, I don't know who you are or what you did, but if you give me those awesome floating shoes you're wearing I'll help you escape. The boy stared at her for a moment, likely still stunned from everything that had happened, until he snapped back to consciousness "Oh, these? sure!" He ripped the strange boot coverings he was wearing off and handed them to Sparrow. A huge smile spread across her face as she took the devices and put them into a side pocket of her bag. "alright then, the mighty Sparrow will assist you in your escape she said as if this was something she did on a regular basis. The boy began to say "Your name is Sparr..." before Sparrow grabbed him and slammed the button on her bag. Her parasail flew open and flung the two off the bus "hang on!" she shouted. The sudden take off caused three of the pursuing robots to crash into each other. The pair of outlaws began drifting towards the large fans that extruded from the sides of the tallest building in the city, she knew these would give her an upwards draft carrying her well

above most of the smaller buildings in the city. This was something that Sparrow had done before, and the sensation of wind rushing past you and carrying you around was something not at all strange to her. The boy, on the other hand, had never experience anything like this and naturally panicked. In his panic he pulled down on Sparrows arm, causing the parasail to turn sharply and fall. The parasail collided with one of the fans and was ripped to shreds as the two fell on to the pavement below. Sore, they began to pick themselves up but Sparrow picked up the tattered remains of her parasail as a look of sadness washed across her face. Realising what he had done, the boy began to apologise. The sound of sirens in the distance brought Sparrow away from her sadness. She grabbed the boy by his arm and dragged him into the lobby of the building.

The ran up to the elevator and pressed the button, dogging peoples stares as they waited for the box to arrive. The bell dinged and the doors opened, the boy got in but just as Sparrow was about to join him, she felt a metallic hand grab her shoulder. As she was dragged back she kicked the robots arm so that it couldn't grab the boy as well, "Go to the top floor" she shout back at him "I'll meet you there!" the doors shut closed and Sparrow prepared to fight for her life. This robot was different though, he had what appeared to be guiding flaps and moved much faster than regular old patrol bots. The robot lunged at her and she was barely able to duck under its arm. Rushing forward, she swung herself onto the robot's shoulder, kicking its arm as it reach for her. The blow launched its own arm into its main sensor unit, knocking the robot onto the ground and causing Sparrow to fall onto the ground. The robot rolled onto it front and reached out for Sparrow. She quickly rolled onto her feet and narrowly avoided the robots clawed hand. She jumped forward and ran across the robot's outstretched hand, leaping onto it back as it stood back up. The robot reached it arms back and its claws snapped out at Sparrow who nimbly avoided them. She reached into the area that connected the robots main sensor unit to its body. The light in its mains sensor unit went out and the robot began to flail its arms. Swinging herself onto the front of the robot she opened the housing for the robot's power core. realising that this is where she must be the robot reached for her but instead ended up grabbing the main circuits of its power core which in turn caused the robot to electrocute its self and explode. Panting, Sparrow began to wonder how she was going to catch up with the boy, who was most likely at the roof already. She looked down at her fallen enemy and an idea came to her.

The door to the roof swung open, and the boy ran out expecting safety but was only met by six armed men surrounding him and one woman in a suit. "Madam president, the boy is secure" said one of the gunmen as he stepped between the boy and the door. "Timothy!" The woman said with a stern expression "stop all this foolishness right now and come home, your father and I are worried sick!" Timothy clenched his fists "NO!" he screamed "I won't be kept in that house any longer!" This sudden outburst startled Timothy's mother and they all stood in silence until they were rudely interrupted with what sounded like an explosion. One of the guards looked over the edge of the building, "what the ..." he said as something shot up the side of the building into the air above them, which turned out to be Sparrow, with the robot's guiding flaps and power core attached to the hovering devices that Timothy had given her. The president and her gunmen were stunned to see someone moving through the air like that. Timothy, however, was not stunned and he ran towards the edge and jumped into the air shouting "Here!" as Sparrow swooped down and grabbed his arm, soaring up into the air with him. Upon reaching a height where the entire city was in view, Sparrow stopped and began to hover, using the momentum to launch Timothy upwards so she could grab him around the waist as the two of them stared at the entire city, a sight that only those with the freedom of wings could experience.